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LETTER DATED 5 OCTOBER 1995 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit herewith a letter dated 5 October 1995 from Mr. Tariq Aziz, Deputy Prime Minister, addressed to you.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annexed letter from the Deputy Prime Minister circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nizar HAMDOON
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

## Annex

### Letter dated 5 October 1995 from the Deputy Prime Minister of Iraq addressed to the President of the Security Council

In connection with the latest visit to Baghdad by Mr. Rolf Ekeus, Executive Chairman of the Special Commission, and the talks which we held with him, as well as the half-yearly report which he is due to submit the Security Council on 11 October 1995, I should like, on behalf of the Government of Iraq, to affirm to you and the members of the Council the following:

1. The Government of Iraq and the Iraqi authorities working with the Special Commission and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) have cooperated with both in a positive and responsible manner throughout the past period. Various achievements have consequently been made, in fulfilment of the objectives and obligations contained in Security Council resolutions 687 (1991) and 715 (1991). I affirm that the Government of Iraq and the aforesaid authorities will continue to work constructively and responsibly with the Special Commission and IAEA and will cooperate fully with both in the performance of their tasks pursuant to those two resolutions.

2. It is well known to the Council that, on 19 August 1995 and thereafter, the Iraqi authorities surrendered to the Chairman of the Special Commission and the IAEA representative information concerning previous programmes that had been deliberately concealed by the former officer-in-charge of those programmes. During visits subsequent to that date by the inspection teams belonging to the Commission and IAEA, and during the latest visit by the Executive Chairman of the Special Commission, additional information and documents recently found on the subject were also submitted. The competent Iraqi authorities will continue to follow this approach, in keeping with the content of paragraph 1 above.

3. I should like to affirm, on behalf of the Government of Iraq, that, despite their content, all the information and documents surrendered after 17 August 1995 do not alter the essential fact that:

- Since the end of 1991, Iraq has kept none of the weapons or weapon components banned under the provisions of Security Council resolution 687 (1991) and has undertaken no activity that contravenes its obligations thereunder;

- Iraq cooperated fully and participated effectively in the establishment of the monitoring system, as affirmed by the Special Commission and IAEA in their reports submitted to the Council.

On the basis of this fact, which I affirm to you officially, I am certain that Iraq has fulfilled its essential obligations under Security Council resolution 687 (1991), as well as its obligations under Security Council resolution 715 (1991). I hope that the Council will take this fact into consideration during its next deliberation.

4. Various media circles have recently reported allegations that chemical weapons or materials are present in the vessels which sank during the military operations in January and February 1991 in the Shatt al-Arab and along Iraq's Gulf coastline. I affirm that the Iraqi vessels which sank during that period were carrying no chemical weapons or materials and that we are ready to cooperate with the United Nations, if it so wishes, in carrying out the task of salvaging the sunken vessels and ascertaining their contents, as well as to provide the facilities required accordingly.

(Signed) Tariq AZIZ
Deputy Prime Minister

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